MR. CHAIRMAN: You must believe the official statistics....*(Interruptions)* ...Allow the Minister to complete...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI MD. SALIM: You must believe the Minister...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: Three months back, Mr. Salim, you were fighting in this House saying that the number of people living below the poverty-line had gone up...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let the Minister answer...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI MD. SALIM: This is an appraisal made by the Planning Commission...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: The Planning Commission says something, the statistical organisations say something ...*(Interruptions)*...Whom do we believe?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: There are other figures. You can debate these figures and draw conclusions.

Let us look at the basic indicator of human development. The life expectancy was 58.7 per cent in 1990. In 1992, it was 60.8 per cent. As regards the literacy rate, figures are not available for 1990. In 1991, it was 52.2 per cent. The birth rate showed a slight increase in 1989-90. But it again declined from 1991. It is now 28.6 per thousand. The death rate was 9.7—9.8 per thousand in 1991...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: This will not satisfy us...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: I am talking about human development...*(Interruptions)* How is it possible to answer these things? It is not a debate...*(Interruptions)* I can only give the figures...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Imposition of Tax on Foreign Telecasting Companies

*83. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Board of Direct Taxes propose to impose tax on foreign telecasting companies associated with Indian satellite television channels;

(b) if so, whether Government have assessed the earnings being made by foreign telecasting companies by advertising Indian products; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and by when Government would finally take a decision in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c): Income of such companies is already subject to income-tax.

Development of Tourism Projects in Karnataka

*86. SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) what are the projects taken in Karnataka to develop tourism; and

(b) what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA): (a) and (b) The projects assisted by the Central Department of Tourism for developing tourism in the Karnataka State during the first four years of the Eighth Plan period include Yatri Niwases, tourist complexes, wayside facilities, tourist reception centres, upgradation of golf courses, etc. In all, 41 projects amounting to Rs. 820.00 lakhs were sanctioned during the period. The year wise details are annexed as a statements I,II,III,IV.